(1) 85,000 ക.

A bridge over the Korayar River near Eruthempathi.

353. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—(a) Has the Government received any petition from the inhabitants of Eruthempathi, Ramavarma Puthur, Kulukkappara, Palanipalayam, Nadupunni, etc, praying for a bridge over the Korayar river near Eruthempathi in Chittur Taluk?

(b) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to comply with their request in the near future?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes. One petition has been received.

(b) A ferry service, specially adapted for strong currents found in the locality, has been arranged to be conducted, and its results will be watched for a year or two before anything further is done.

The opening of a road westwards from near the Chalakkudi Railway Station to the Mala Road.

354. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a proposal to open a road westwards from near the Chalakkudi Railway Station to the Mala road;

(b) the probable cost of the road mentioned in (a);

(c) why the proposal, if any, mentioned in (a) was not carried out;

(d) whether the Government has made or intends to make arrangements to open in the near future the road mentioned in (a)?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (a No.

(b), (c) and (d). The question does not arise in view of the answer to (a).

Mr: C. A. Ouseph.—Did the Assistant Engineer conduct any investigation during the regime of Diwan Mr. Vijayaraghava Charya with a view to ascertain whether such a road as mentioned in this question was practicable and what would be its probable cost? I asked whether there has been a proposal to open a road. It is said that there has been no proposal. My

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urther question is whether there has been any investigation in the matter.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—But we do not see anything regarding such an investigation in our files.

President.—The records do not show that any investigation has been conducted.

A statement showing the annual grant, expenditure, etc., of the Village Panchayats.

355. Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing for the last five years.—

(i) the annual grant from the Government to each Village Panchayat;

(ii) the annual expenditure of each Village Panchayat;

(iii) the number of decrees given by Panchayat Courts, number taken in revision, number confirmed in revision, number reversed, number modified and number remanded?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Two statements giving the information available on the subjects are appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know on what principle this distribution of grants is based? A table is given with regard to distribution of grants for the Village Panchayats, etc.

President.—Is there any principle?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—That question is answered in question No. 357.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—From this schedule I see so many grants lapsing. Are there any particular reasons for these grants to lapse?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Sometimes proposals are received late. So works could not be executed early enough.

President.—But at the same time new works are started for which funds are required. And out of the funds actually provided for, you take necessary funds for new works. Is it not?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Have any explanations been called for or received?

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